

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 06019 170949Z

21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /032 W

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R 161638Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

SECSTATE WASHDC 4233

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EO 11652:/A

TAGS: EPAP, EIND, IV, RP

SUBJ: IVORY COAST COCONUT MISSION TO PHILIPPINES

1. IVORY COAST IN PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING "MIXED ECONOMIC CORPORATION" FOR DEVELOPMENT OF COCONUT PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND HAS BEEN ADVISED TO VISIT CERTAIN AMERICAN-OWNED ESTABLISHMENTS IN PHILIPPINES TO GET KNOW-HOW. REQUEST EMBASSY'S HELP IN MAKING CONTACT WITH THESE FIRMS TO ASCERTAIN IF AND WHEN VISIT WOULD BE WELCOME.

2. BACKGROUND: SINCE 1967 IVORY COAST HAS PLANTED 20,000 HECTARES OF QUALITY COCONUT PALMS, 12,500 ARE IN INDUSTRIAL PLANTATIONS AND 7,500 ARE IN VILLAGE (SMALL-HOLDER) PLANTATIONS. THE FIRST OF THESE PLANTATIONS IS NOW BEGINNING TO COME INTO PRODUCTION. FOR THE PAST YEAR, SODEPALM (SOCIETY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PALM OIL PRODUCTS), A PARASTATAL ORGANIZATION WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PROJECT, HAS BEEN DEVELOPING HARVESTING, COLLECTION AND PROCESSING METHODS FOR THE COCONUTS. IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL FOR THIS ORGANIZATION, HOWEVER, TO LEARN ABOUT THE UTILIZE THE EXPERIENCES OF OLDER PLANTATIONS. HARDLY ANY OF INDUSTRIAL DIMENSIONS EXIST, HOWEVER, IN WEST AFRICA. THUS IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF SODEPALM TO VISIT ANALOGOUS ORGANIZATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, TO LEARN ABOUT EXPLOITATION OF PLANTATIONS, FACTORIES OR WORKSHOPS FOR PRODUCING COPRAH, FOR SHREDDED

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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 06019 170949Z

COCOANUT, FOR FIBERS AND FOR CHARCOAL MADE FROM COCOANUT

SHELLS.

3. WHILE AT THIS TIME THE IVORIAN VISITORS WOULD BE FROM  
SODEPALM, THEY WILL EVENTUALLY BE PART OF THE SEMI-PUBLIC/  
SEMI-PRIVATE "SICOR" (IVORIAN CORPORATION FOR SHREDDED COCONUT).

4. THE IVORIANS HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE FOLLOWING NAMES AND WOULD  
APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER THESE (OR OTHER APPROPRIATE COMPANIES)  
COULD RECIVE THEM:

A. MR. COLIN WATSON, GENERAL MANAGER, FRANKLIN BAKER COMPANY,  
SAN PABLO:

B. MR. FRANCISCO ALBERT CHUA, PRESIDENT, SUN-RIPE COCONUT  
PRODUCTS INC., 747 MUELLE DE LA INDUSTRIA, BINONDO, MANILA.

5. REQUEST COMES TO THIS EMBASSY WITH ENDORSEMENT OF A MEMBER  
OF THE IVORIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF  
THE FOREIGH AFFAIRS MINISTRY, SO WE ARE MOST ANXIOUS TO BE HELPFUL.  
SMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, COCONUTS  
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**Draft Date:** 16 JUL 1975  
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